

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

I, Daniel P. Brown, residing and having a post office address of 8310 W. 127<sup>th</sup> Street, Palos Park, Illinois 60464, declare that I am a citizen of the United States of America. I believe that I am the original and first inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**“ADJUSTABLE GRIPPING TOOL”**

the specification of which is being filed concurrently herewith, and identified by Attorney Docket No. 35985.00.0001.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendments referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed: NONE

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application: NONE.

The undersigned hereby appoints Angelo J. Bufalino, Reg. No. 29,622, James T. FitzGibbon, Reg. No. 20,592, Richard A. Zachar, Reg. No. 25,560, Joseph P. Krause, Reg. No. 32,578, Robert S. Beiser, Reg. No. 28,687, Christopher J. Reckamp, Reg. No. 34,414, Mark A. Dalla Valle, Reg. No. 34,147, Michael J. Turgeon, Reg. No. 39,404, Timothy J. Bechen, Reg. No. 48,126, Brent A. Boyd, Reg. No. 51,020, and Themis Anagnos, Reg. No. 47,388, his attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith, and to receive the Letters Design Patent. Please address all correspondence to:

Angelo J. Bufalino, Esq.  
VEDDER PRICE KAUFMAN & KAMMHOLZ  
222 N. LaSalle Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

The undersigned declare further that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made herein of his information

and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Dated: JAN. 22, 2004

  
DANIEL P. BROWN